



Montana

Department of Labor and Industry

Commissioner's Office

Contact Casey Kyler-West, Communications Director
TELEPHONE: (406)444-1520 (406) 439-2708
FAX: (406)444-1394
E-mail: ckylwest@mt.gov

P.O. BOX 1728
HELENA, MT
59624-1728

DATE 11-21-08

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

President Extends Unemployment Insurance Benefits

President Bush signed legislation on November 21, 2008 that extends the current emergency unemployment compensation (EUC) to help address the economic decline affecting the country.

Montana Department of Labor and Industry Commissioner Keith Kelly says, “the extension continues to help those Montanans who are having a hard time finding employment in some parts of our economy and at the same time provide an economic stimulus to our Main Street businesses.”

The provisions of the extension will allow up to an additional seven weeks of benefits for individuals who have exhausted their EUC claim and are not eligible to begin a new unemployment insurance claim.

The extension is available for individuals who exhaust their unemployment benefits by March 31, 2009. Compensation provided under the legislation will expire completely on August 27, 2009. Because the extension is federally funded there is no cost to employers.

Claimants who could be eligible for the benefits will be notified by mail. Claimants who have exhausted their current emergency unemployment compensation claim may reactivate their claim by logging on to www.UI4U.mt.gov, or they can contact the Unemployment Insurance Claims Processing Center at (406) 444-2545 (Helena) or (406) 247-1000 (Billings).

####